

HOUSE RESOLUTION 202

By Jones U

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Beverly Elaine "Bev" Johnson for meritorious service to the citizens of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens, who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Bev Johnson, who this year is celebrating her 20th year of hosting her top-rated radio talk show, "The Bev Johnson Show," on Memphis's WDIA; and

WHEREAS, a native of Memphis and the daughter of the late William Van Johnson and the late Julia Danner Johnson, Beverly Elaine Johnson was raised in Ann Arbor, Michigan; she holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Rust College and a Master of Science degree in Educational/Media Technology from Jackson State University; and

WHEREAS, during her thirty years in the broadcasting industry, Ms. Johnson has served as Announcer, Public Service Director, News/Community Affairs Director, Programming Assistant, Marketing Assistant, and talk show host; currently, in addition to her duties with "The Bev Johnson Show," she serves as News Director for Clear Channel's legendary radio station WDIA and as an instructor in the Fine Arts and Speech Department at Southwest Tennessee Community College; and

WHEREAS, despite her many professional pursuits, Bev Johnson has still found time to lend her talents to such notable causes as the Rock N Soul Museum; Memphis Area Planned Parenthood; mentoring 5th and 6th grade girls at Gordon Elementary School; the Memphis Branch of the NAACP, of which she has served as Radiothon Chairman; the Memphis Chapter

of Coalition of 100 Black Women, which she has served as auctioneer; and WKNO television; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Johnson is also the 2nd Vice President of the National Black Programmers Coalition, a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, a member of Mt. Pisgah C.M.E. Church, a recent graduate of Southwest Tennessee Community College's Substance Abuse Program, and a volunteer with the Shelby County Drug Court; she is co-owner of Heart 2 Heart Collaborations Counseling Services and host of the Comcast local cable television show, "Affairs of the Heart"; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to accolades, Bev Johnson has been honored with the UNCF Outstanding Alumnus Award, the News/Public Affairs Director of the Year award by the National Black Programmers Coalition; nomination for The National Association of Broadcasters Marconi Award; and *Billboard* Personality of the Year; she was also honored by the Tennessee General Assembly's House of Representatives for her tenth year of hosting "The Bev Johnson Show"; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Johnson epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean, and she truly exemplifies her personal motto "as you treat yourself, you will treat others"; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Bev Johnson for her dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor Beverly Elaine "Bev" Johnson upon her 20th year of hosting "The Bev Johnson Show" and her 30th year in broadcasting, commend her for her meritorious service to the State of Tennessee, and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.